

Appl. No. 10/037,829

Reply to Office Action of March 31, 2005

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (currently amended) A vision enhancement system for use on a vehicle, the vehicle having an exterior body portion, comprising:

a camera mounted to the vehicle behind the exterior body portion;

a door moveably mounted in the body portion, said door positioned in said camera's line of sight and capable of being moved between a closed position and an open position; ~~and~~

an actuator for selectively positioning said door in one of said open and closed positions ~~begin~~; and

a controller coupled to said camera and to said actuator for opening said door and activating said camera when exterior ambient light falls below a predetermined threshold.

2. (original) A vision enhancement system according to claim 1 wherein said body portion includes a grill.

3. (original) A vision enhancement system according to claim 2 wherein said door has a decorative exterior.

4. (original) A vision enhancement system according to claim 3 wherein said camera is a night vision camera.

5. (original) A vision enhancement system according to claim 3 wherein said door is pivotally coupled to said grill.

6. (original) A vision enhancement system according to claim 5 further comprising a spring coupled to said door and to said grill for biasing said door in a normally closed position.

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7. (original) A vision enhancement system according to claim 6 wherein said actuator comprises:

a motor; and

a cable coupled to said motor and to said door for opening said door when said motor is energized.

8. (original) A vision enhancement system according to claim 7 further comprising a switch for energizing said motor.

9. (currently amended) A vision enhancement system according to claim 7 ~~were-in~~ wherein said controller comprises a light detector.

10. (original) A vision enhancement system according to claim 7 further comprising a control unit for energizing said motor when said vehicle is turned on.

11. (cancelled)

12. (original) A vision enhancement system according to claim 7 further comprising a display for displaying an image taken by said camera.

13. (original) A vision enhancement system according to claim 4 further comprising a display for displaying a thermal image taken by said night vision camera.

14. (original) A vision enhancement system according to claim 2 further comprising a decorative emblem coupled to an exterior of said door.

15. (previously presented) A night vision enhancement system for use on a vehicle, the vehicle having a front grill, said system comprising:

a night vision camera mounted behind the grill and having a forwardly directed line of sight;

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a door having a decorative exterior pivotally coupled to said grill in said camera's line of sight and capable of being moved between an open position and a closed position;

a motor coupled to said door for selectively positioning said door in one of said open and closed positions; and

a controller coupled to said motor and to said camera for energizing said motor and activating said camera when exterior ambient light falls below a predetermined threshold.

16. (original) A night vision enhancement system according to claim 15 further comprising a spring coupled to said door and to said grill for biasing said door in a normally closed position.

17. (original) A night vision enhancement system according to claim 16 further comprising a cable coupled between said door and said motor.

18. (original) A night vision enhancement system according to claim 17 wherein said controller comprises a manual switch.

19. (previously presented) A night vision enhancement system according to claim 17 wherein said controller comprises a light detector.

20. (currently amended) A night vision enhancement system according to claim 17 wherein said ~~motor~~ controller is coupled to an ignition system of the vehicle for opening said door when the ignition system is turned on.

21. (original) A night vision enhancement system according to claim 16 further comprising a display for displaying an image received by said camera.